

I am George Massey, Co-chair of the Salisbury Land Trust and a Board member of Habitat for Humanity of Northwest Connecticut.

Community Investment Act funds must continue to support conservation and affordable housing.

These are challenging times with many worthy needs and limited cash to spend. Certainly the needs of health care or town aid are critical and can't be ignored. But as these immediate needs are addressed, it is essential that conservation and affordable housing not be ignored. As our financial engines recover, it is ever more important that these concerns that provide long-term health to our society continue to be addressed. For economic vitality, which is important to us all, can often work against land conservation. And while economic growth may provide the possibility of home ownership for some, we see that it is apt to leave others even farther behind. It is the special role of the state to support conservation and affordable housing. These are critical elements of a healthy society that are not sufficiently provided for by our economic engine. If these troubled times require that dedicated CIA funds be borrowed from, I hope we will see a formal commitment for their restoration at the earliest possible time.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "George Massey". The signature is written in dark ink and includes a stylized flourish at the end of the last name.

George Massey

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